



ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Statements from Atlanta City Councilmembers Kwanza Hall and Mary Norwood  
on the death of community activist Barney Simms**

"I join Atlantans in mourning the passing of Barney Simms. Barney was a one-of-a-kind champion for southwest Atlanta and a tireless public servant. When I was a member of the Atlanta Board of Education, he and I served together on the Atlanta Development Authority. We worked together on initiatives at Atlanta Housing Authority properties as well, including Centennial Place and Cosby Spear. He was a consummate professional. If you ever saw him chair a meeting, you know that he brought his considerable leadership skills to groups far and wide across the city, from NPU-R and his neighborhood association to the church and nonprofit boards on which he served."

"Barney Simms loved life, and he was gracious in sharing his wisdom. I was one of those with whom he shared personal and political advice over the years. I am a better person for his friendship."

"Let us all keep the friends and family of Barney Simms in our thoughts and prayers."  
– **Kwanza Hall, Atlanta City Council, District 2**

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"Our City has suffered a tragic loss with the death of Barney Simms. His commitment to communities and citizens all across Atlanta spanned decades of dedication and hard work. His energy, his spirit, and his integrity impressed all of us who were privileged to have enjoyed his company and worked with him. He was a consummate southern gentleman--always dapper, always kind, always considerate, always caring for others."

"My friendship with Barney goes all the way back to the 1990's when we both were community advocates. His contributions to the City of Atlanta cannot be overstated."

From his outstanding leadership as the President of the Atlanta Planning Advisory Board to his long-term commitment to his own community of Bonnybrook, Barney Simms was a treasure--a gem in our town. His loss is devastating to his family and to all of us who knew and loved him.” – **Mary Norwood, Atlanta City Council, Post 2 At-Large**

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